

**MOTION BY CHAIR HILDA L. SOLIS**

**April 5, 2016**

In 1988, Los Angeles County became the first County in the State to fund local dispute resolution programs under the California Dispute Resolution Programs Act. These programs have become a valuable service to the public and the courts by providing an alternative means for settling disputes. Over the past three years, trained volunteer mediators helped nearly 60,000 people resolve their conflicts, without the added stress, time, and money that often accompany an antagonistic, and more costly formal court process. Using figures provided by L.A. Superior Court, savings in court costs each year have been estimated at \$45 million. These results have been achieved in spite of a multi-year decline in available funding. I encourage all County Departments, residents, municipalities, businesses, and organizations to utilize these mediation services as an alternative to formal court proceedings and as a peaceful method to resolving disputes.

**I, THEREFORE, MOVE THAT THE BOARD:**

1. Declare the week of April 4-8, 2016 as Mediation Week in Los Angeles County; and
2. Commend the nine non-profit organizations and three public entity dispute resolution program service providers, volunteers, and staff for their participation in the program; and
3. Encourage all County Departments to utilize the process of mediation and other dispute resolution services to resolve department and public disputes.

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**MOTION**

RIDLEY-THOMAS \_\_\_\_\_

KUEHL \_\_\_\_\_

KNABE \_\_\_\_\_

ANTONOVICH \_\_\_\_\_

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